



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Engineer Research and  
Development Center

# News Release

Release No. A04-00

Contact: **PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

For Release: Immediately

Phone: **(703) 428-6655**

---

Topographic Engineering Center • 7701 Telegraph Road • Alexandria, VA 22315-3864 • <http://www.erdc.usace.army.mil>

---

## **TEC/TRAC-WSMR members receive Outstanding Achievement Award**

Mr. Louis Fatale and Dr. Paul Krause of the Engineer Research and Development Center's Topographic Engineering Center (TEC), and Danny Champion of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Analysis Center-White Sands Missile Range (TRAC-WSMR), N.M., are the recipients of a Department of Defense Modeling and Simulation "Outstanding Achievement Award". The TEC/TRAC-WSMR study team received the award for their highly innovative, unique, and comprehensive work titled "The Effects of Vegetation on LOS for Dismounted Infantry".

Prediction of line of sight (LOS) conditions has always been an essential part of understanding the battlefield. In August 1997, the Army Modeling and Simulation Office funded TEC/TRAC-WSMR to conduct the aforementioned study. The purpose of the research was to provide a better understanding of LOS in vegetated areas and to enable a more accurate depiction of dismounted infantry engagement in combat simulations.

The TEC/TRAC-WSMR-developed field study identifies representative worldwide vegetative density zones; verifies and validates typical LOS within each; predicts future LOS performance by providing analysts with a standard algorithm to yield accurate LOS in varied vegetation densities; and provides recommendations on how to improve the simulation of LOS in vegetation for combat models.

Dr. Krause and Messrs. Fatale and Champion were presented with their awards by Dr. Delores Etter, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Science and Technology) during the Defense Modeling and Simulation Office Industry Days.

The team's work also won the Army's Wilbur B. Payne Award in October 1999.



From left to right: Louis Fatale, Danny Champion and Dr. Paul Krause.